



General Assembly

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Committee on Information

Thirty-ninth session

24 April-5 May 2017

Agenda item 10

**Consideration and adoption of the report of the Committee
to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session**

Draft report

I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 34/182, the General Assembly decided to maintain the Committee to Review United Nations Public Information Policies and Activities, established by its resolution 33/115 C, which would be known as the Committee on Information, and to increase its membership from 41 to 66. In section I, paragraph 2, of resolution 34/182, the Assembly requested the Committee:

(a) To continue to examine United Nations public information policies and activities, in the light of the evolution of international relations, particularly during the past two decades, and of the imperatives of the establishment of the new international economic order and of a new world information and communication order;

(b) To evaluate and follow up the efforts made and the progress achieved by the United Nations system in the field of information and communications;

(c) To promote the establishment of a new, more just and more effective world information and communication order intended to strengthen peace and international understanding and based on the free circulation and wider and better balanced dissemination of information and to make recommendations thereon to the General Assembly.

The Assembly also requested the Committee and the Secretary-General to report to it at its thirty-fifth session.

2. The General Assembly, from its thirty-sixth to seventy-first sessions, took note of the reports of the Committee and adopted resolutions by consensus. At its seventy-first session, the Assembly took note of the report of the Committee and adopted by consensus resolution 71/101 A and B.



3. Currently, the Committee is composed of the following Member States:

Algeria	Denmark
Angola	Dominican Republic
Antigua and Barbuda	Ecuador
Argentina	Egypt
Armenia	El Salvador
Austria	Ethiopia
Azerbaijan	Finland
Bangladesh	France
Belarus	Gabon
Belgium	Georgia
Belize	Germany
Benin	Ghana
Brazil	Greece
Bulgaria	Guatemala
Burkina Faso	Guinea
Burundi	Guyana
Cabo Verde	Hungary
Chile	Iceland
China	India
Colombia	Indonesia
Congo	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Costa Rica	Iraq
Côte d'Ivoire	Ireland
Croatia	Israel
Cuba	Italy
Cyprus	Jamaica
Czech Republic	Japan
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Jordan
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Kazakhstan

Kenya	Senegal
Lebanon	Sierra Leone
Liberia	Singapore
Libya	Slovakia
Luxembourg	Solomon Islands
Madagascar	Somalia
Malta	South Africa
Mexico	Spain
Monaco	Sri Lanka
Mongolia	Sudan
Morocco	Suriname
Mozambique	Switzerland
Nepal	Syrian Arab Republic
Netherlands	Thailand
Niger	Togo
Nigeria	Trinidad and Tobago
Oman	Tunisia
Pakistan	Turkey
Paraguay	Ukraine
Peru	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Philippines	
Poland	United Republic of Tanzania
Portugal	United States of America
Qatar	Uruguay
Republic of Korea	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Republic of Moldova	Viet Nam
Romania	Yemen
Russian Federation	Zambia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Zimbabwe
Saudi Arabia	

II. Organizational questions

A. Opening of the session

4. The organizational meeting of the thirty-ninth session of the Committee was held on 24 April 2017 at Headquarters. The session was opened by the Chair of the Committee, Kaha Imnadze (Georgia).

B. Elections

5. The Committee held elections for a new Bureau for a two-year term. Upon his nomination by the representative of Western European and other States, Jan Kickert (Austria) was elected Chair by acclamation. Upon their nomination by the representatives of Eastern European States, Asia-Pacific States and Latin American and Caribbean States, respectively, Jakub Chmielewski (Poland), Hajime Kishimori (Japan) and Carla Rivera Sánchez (El Salvador) were elected Vice-Chair, by acclamation. Mr. Kishimori was also elected Rapporteur, by acclamation. The Committee deferred the election of a fourth Vice-Chair pending consultations within, and nomination by, African States. The officers for the Committee on Information for the period 2017-2019 are as follows:

Chair:

Jan Kickert (Austria)

Vice-Chairs:

Jakub Chmielewski (Poland)

Hajime Kishimori (Japan)

Carla Rivera Sánchez (El Salvador)

Rapporteur:

Hajime Kishimori (Japan)

C. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work

6. At its organizational meeting, on 24 April, the Committee adopted the following agenda and programme of work (A/AC.198/2017/1):

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work.
4. Admission of new members.
5. Statement by the Chair.
6. Statement by the Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information.
7. General debate.
8. Consideration of reports submitted by the Secretary-General.
9. Open-ended working group of the Committee on Information.
10. Consideration and adoption of the report of the Committee to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session.

7. The Committee held its general debate on 24 and 25 April 2017. On 24 April, in the afternoon, the Department of Public Information, led by the Acting Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications, held an informal interactive dialogue with Member States.

8. For its consideration of agenda item 8, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information: strategic communications services (A/AC.198/2017/2);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information: news services (A/AC.198/2017/3);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information: outreach and knowledge services (A/AC.198/2017/4).

D. Observers

9. The European Union, the State of Palestine and the International Organization of la Francophonie participated in the session as observers.
